

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 17-18, 21-35, 44, and 47-71 Pending.
Claims 1-16, 19-20, 36-43, and 45-46 Canceled.

Examiners Note

2. Examiner notes that all claims are referenced as per the numbering of the claims found in the claim set submitted 2/21/2008. Furthermore, all amendments made to the claims via Examinees Amendment in the action dated 5/13/2008 are applied.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

3. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 6/30/2008 has been entered.

Response to Remarks

4. Applicant's remarks dated 6/30/2008 have been reviewed and the changes detailed therein are entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 17-18, 21-35, 44, and 47-71 allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per Claims 17 and 23, the prior art of record neither teaches nor suggests the limitation of preventing decreasing progress estimations from being displayed to the user by maintaining upper bounds on the total work to be performed.

As per Claims 33 and 47, the prior art of record neither teaches nor suggests the limitation of a tuple spill indicator that alerts a user when tuples spill to disk during query execution.

All other claims depend from one of Claims 17, 23, 33, and 47.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Points of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael J. Hicks whose telephone number is (571) 272-2670. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 9:00a - 7:30p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christian Chace can be reached on (571) 272-4190. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Michael J Hicks
Art Unit 2165
Phone: (571) 272-2670
Fax: (571) 273-2670

/Christian P. Chace/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2165